

# OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB BULLETIN

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## Jersey Court Rules Against Farber

In a 5-2 decision, the New Jersey Supreme Court ruled Sept. 21 that *New York Times* reporter Myron A. Farber must surrender his notes in the curare murder trial or return to jail Sept. 26 for contempt of a lower court order. The U.S. Supreme Court stayed the ruling Sept. 26 on appeal.

According to press reports, the New Jersey Court ruled that the Sixth Amendment guaranteeing defendants a fair trial takes precedence over the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing freedom of the press.

(Continued on page 2)

To our readers: following the dictum of the late Mies van der Rohe that "less is more", The Bulletin reverts to its previous four-page format with this issue. Hope you like it.

## Hentoff Shop Talk Set For Oct. 5

Few subjects evoke swifter reaction from newspeople than freedom of the press. And few newsmen have made a more detailed and definitive study of the subject than Nat Hentoff.

Sensitive to the Club's firm stand regarding the *New York Times*/Myron A. Farber case (see separate story),

(Continued on page 3)

## Jazz Club Hosts Record Opener

The language was French, Polish and good old American — accented and unaccented. Communication was total, however, as members of the international jazz community played for an unprecedentedly large audience September 19 at the opening concert of the Overseas Jazz Club's tenth annual season at the OPC. (For the accountants among us: 230 in attendance; bar take, \$1,300.)

Inspiration for the evening: the life and work of Duke Ellington and the International Jazz Federation's "El-

(Continued on page 3)

## SOUTH AFRICA ATTACKS PRESIDENT'S AWARD

(Editor's note: because of its importance, the following correspondence is published in full for the information of all members).

August 30, 1978

Mr. M. A. R. Bassity  
President, Overseas Press Club of America  
55 East 43rd Street  
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Mr. Bassity:

Your presidential message in Dateline volume 22 No. 1 has been brought to our attention and has been read with interest.

We do however, take exception to the fact that you should single out South Africa as an example of your concern about the infringement of press freedom abroad. South Africa's newspaper industry is by far the most flourishing in Africa with 23 daily newspapers and 550 registered periodicals. All South Africa's newspapers are privately owned and there are over 86 foreign correspondents reporting from the country at present. The editor of the London Daily Telegraph recently described South Africa's press as one of the most free on the African continent.

Indeed, we find it curious that you should not have expressed your concern regarding press freedom in such countries as Nigeria, Ethiopia, Ghana, Angola and Mozambique, where foreign and local newsmen were jailed and expelled during 1977. No mention is made of the fact that the creation of the Pan-African News Agency, under the aegis of the OAU, will compel foreign news agencies to subscribe only to PANA for African news. UNESCO's growing role in the transnational news media and its efforts to sustain pressure against the free news media is another area of utmost importance and concern to journalists.

There are literally scores of countries which could serve as examples to illustrate your concern for press freedom. Freedom House lists 64 nations less free than South Africa. Have any of the banned or jailed journalists in these countries received OPC President's Awards as Donald Woods did this year?

You may be interested to know that the Writers Association of South Africa, which represents 150 of the 200 black journalists in South Africa, passed a resolution at their recent annual congress which reads as follows: "Donald Woods is irrelevant to the black struggle and to black journalism. WASA wants to publicly condemn him as an unscrupulous person and a hypocrite

who, as editor of the Daily Dispatch, did nothing to improve the position of black journalists on his paper." This is the man who received your President's Award this year.

Yours sincerely,  
Johan Adler  
Deputy Consul General (Information)  
South African Consulate General  
New York City

September 13, 1978

Mr. Johan Adler  
Deputy Consul General (Information)  
South African Consulate General  
425 Park Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Mr. Adler:

Your letter questioning the presentation of the Overseas Press Club's President's Award to Donald Woods was forwarded and reached me only yesterday on the anniversary of the murder of Steve Biko.

Also yesterday, wire dispatches from Johannesburg reported the detention of 11 of Biko's friends and relatives. The same dispatches report that five of those detained were stripped, chained to beams in a farm storeroom and beaten. Further, that six South African policemen and two civilians have been charged with the murder of one of the blacks, Jankie Matobako, 25, who died of severe kidney failure.

As former President of the Overseas Press Club and the individual who chose Donald Woods for our President's Award, may I say — and I am sure I reflect the feelings of our membership — that I hope you will heed the request of our State Department and "immediately charge or release" the remaining detainees.

Our original act was taken in denunciation of cruel and cynical actions such as this and I can only hope and pray that the remaining detainees do not suffer the fate of Biko and Matobako.

Sincerely yours,  
Matthew A. R. Bassity



## Capacity Crowd At LIFE Luncheon

**LIFE is back.** With a deadline to meet, Chuck Whittingham, publisher; Philip Kunhardt, managing editor and Eleanor Graves, assistant managing editor, took time out to describe the new monthly at the first OPC Shop Talk of the year September 21. An added attraction was Carl Mydans, famed LIFE photographer, who called the rebirth "a terribly important development in print media. It will be highly successful."

Whittingham expects "to follow in the giant footsteps" of those who put out "the great publication" as a weekly in the past. "The timing is great just now," he told a packed luncheon audience. "The magazine business is as healthy as it ever was in history. It fills a void. The advertising climate is healthy."

### Advertising Record

He said the new LIFE already has an advertising record of \$838,000 for the first issue, including McDonald's a "reluctant" magazine advertiser. "Television won't go away, but it is terribly expensive, so advertisers are turning to magazines," he said.

Suspended six years ago after 36 years in business, LIFE has published ten special issues over the past five years as a "test." Now "feeling the flutter of butterflies, we start again," Whittingham said. "The picture is still magic."

Planned are 12 issues a year in the large LIFE format, instead of the former 52. Instead of the 350 staffers in the "heyday," the current staff numbers 38 with half as backup and 20 producing stories. Freelance photographers will be used exclusively.

### 700,000 Circulation

Eleanor Graves is proud that LIFE has done "such a terrific job with women. The balance on the new magazine is four associate editors — two women, two men and reporters 50-50."

LIFE begins with 700,000 circulation guaranteed. Editors will show through photos what people do and eat; current social trends; medical and science news; nature; people of importance, and places currently in the news, hopefully "with ingenuity, wit and imagination."

The new LIFE won't be confined to entertainment but will deal "with fun and the serious, the trivial, and matters of lasting importance." It will be apolitical, editors said.

—Blythe Foote Finke

## Up-and-coming

**Thursday, Oct. 5, 5:30-7 p.m. — SHOP TALK.** Guest: Nat Hentoff, *Village Voice* columnist and author, speaking on "How the Press Covers and Confuses First Amendment Issues."

**Wednesday, Oct. 18, 5:30-7:00 p.m. — SHOP TALK.** Guest: Ron Nessen — news correspondent and press secretary to former President Gerald Ford. Author, "It Sure Looks Different From the Inside."

**Tuesday, Oct. 24, 12 noon cocktails; 12:30 luncheon. — SHOP TALK Luncheon.** Guest: Malcolm S. Forbes, President and editor-in-chief of FORBES Magazine.

**Wednesday, Nov. 1, 12 noon cocktails; 12:30 luncheon. — SHOP TALK Luncheon.** Guest: Harold M. Evans, Editor *The Sunday Times*, London (1975 International Editor of the Year) and author. Subject: Observations on photo journalism and freedom of the press around the world.

## LETTERS

I want to congratulate the Freedom of the Press Committee for putting OPC on the record in the Myron Farber case.

In my own opinion it makes little difference what deals Farber made on the side with any publishers or anyone else. He was jailed as a reporter for the *New York Times*. Making any other contractual arrangements, he was doing so as a professional writer and that too is covered by the First Amendment.

Donald I. Rogers

Economics Editor, Hearst Newspapers  
New York City

I retired as chief engineer WIOD Miami a year ago after 47 years in broadcasting — including 9 yrs at CBS NY, first as an engineer, then 6 yrs as CBS writer, producer, director, war correspondent in Europe and Pacific. We moved to Rancho Santa Fe (north San Diego County).

Unable to stay retired. Since moving to Ca. have furnished radio equipment and service for visiting radio stations for Boston Red Sox, Minnesota Twins, Milwaukee Brewers and Cincinnati Reds at Anaheim and San Diego, plus a springtime stint with California Angels as producer-engineer. Plus Jets, Bengal, Chief and Packer football visiting stations at San Diego. Also hacking around free-lance writing.

—Gene Rider

## FARBER CASE

(Continued from page 1)

*The Times* argues that Farber also is protected by the New Jersey "shield law" which guarantees the confidentiality of a reporter's files.

Justice Morris Pashman dissented in a minority opinion, according to reports, and was quoted as predicting "the victims will be the press, the courts and the public interest. (The ruling) leaves a reporter unshielded and the free press not so free," he was quoted.

Henry Gellerman, president of the Overseas Press Club and chairman of its Freedom of the Press Committee, has restated the club's support of *New York Times* reporter Myron A. Farber's position for not releasing his notes to the court.

"We note that the New Jersey Supreme Court has upheld the contempt conviction of the *New York Times* and Mr. Farber, and has ordered Mr. Farber back to jail September 26. This is legal harassment and constitutes undue penalties on Mr. Farber and his family," Mr. Gellerman said. "On behalf of our 1,456 members, we vigorously protest this latest action, and once again voice our support and applause for the continued stand of the *New York Times* and Mr. Farber to protect a newsperson's right to protect the right of confidentiality."

As a member of the OPC Reunion Committee, I'd like to register my belief that the WWII Last Roundup a couple of weeks ago was a fitting climax to twenty years of the committee's significant contributions to the Club's stature.

It is to be hoped that there will be some record of the evening available to all of us because I, for one, would like to have it to read from time to time.

The picture will be with me for a long time of so many great correspondents who were such an important part of the reporting of WWII, ranging from the legendary Sigrid Schultz to Andy Rooney and Howard Cowan (representing the younger generation) with Boyd Lewis and others in between.

The evening was also a proper curtain for the work of our Reunion Committee chairman of twenty years, Ed Cunningham. As some of the other committee members and I agreed that night, the singular success of the Reunion Committee was built on two factors: leadership and love — meaning Cunningham's leadership and our love for Cunningham.

—Joe Dine



## JAZZ CLUB

(Continued from page 1)

lington World Jazz Competition for Soloists and Bands," announced at a press conference immediately preceding the concert. Station WNYC carried the concert live and jazz fans in 143 countries will hear the program on Voice of America.

It was the night of the piano — the piano of Brooks Kerr, our own jazz genius who from the age of eight has been conversant with the Ellington oeuvre and is a recording artist and performer and Ellington scholar; the piano of Adam Makowicz, leading European jazz pianist from Poland, whose first American album, "Adam," has just been released by Columbia; and the Jazz a Cordes Quintet (Jazz a Strings), recapturing the high style of Django Rheinhardt and the historic Hot Club of France.

It was Duke Ellington night, as the Rev. Dr. John Garcia Gensel spoke of his long association with his "good friend, Edward Kennedy Ellington," paying tribute to Ellington as "universal man," describing his music as "not earth-bound but the music of earth and heaven." It was also Celebrity Night.

Ruth Ellington thanked the Federation — a non-profit organization and the only one representing jazz on UNESCO's International Music Council — for sponsoring the first world-wide jazz event — the Federation's Ellington competition — in memory of her brother.

Charles Delaunay of Paris, founder of the Hot Club of France, was on hand. Jazz Chairman Wilma Dobie alluded to the old line, "We owe a debt to Lafayette," adding, "We owe a debt to Delaunay, who told us forty years ago to recognize and honor American jazz."

John Hammona addressed the capacity audience — Hammond, whose life as jazz connoisseur and talent discoverer has made him a vital force in music. Jan Byrczek, secretary of the International Jazz Federation and editor of *Jazz Forum*, and Stanley Dance, author of "The World of Earl Hines," also attended.

Among artists who have played at the OPC and were on hand for the opener were Maurice Waller, Buck Clayton and Jimmy Wright. Peter (Snakehips) Dean and Henry Boatwright also took bows.

Guest artists included singer Claudia Moore from "Bubbling Brown Sugar"; Herman Foster, who jammed with Charlie McGee and others; Tom Valvo, piano, and Zig Mullens, Jonah Jones and Walter Bishop.

## NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS Under 30

John Ward, New York Correspondent, *The Canadian Press*  
SPONSORS: Robert G. Black, Ruth C. Biemiller

### Active Overseas

Antonio Rodriguez-Villar, Editor-in-Chief, *Selecciones del Reader's Digest*  
SPONSORS: E. Kolsby, Susan Wanner

### Active Resident

Kenneth A. Kovaly, Editor & Publisher, *Inside R&D Technical Insights, Inc.*  
SPONSORS: Patrick McCurdy, Ralph R. Schulz

### Associate Resident

Hooshang Feizbakhsh, General Director, Ministry of Information & Tourism (Iran)  
SPONSORS: Stella Margold, Matt Bassity  
Elaine Fine, Self-employed, free lance writer

SPONSORS: Walter Diamond, Matt Bassity

## REINSTATEMENT

### Active Resident

Donald Brydon, UPI

### NEW MEMBER

### Active Overseas

Birger Leth Karlsen, journalist, A&L International, Denmark

Sol Zatt scripted the radiocast. Others on the Jazz Committee which arranged the evening are Jerry Bissell, co-chairman, Ruth Biemiller, George Burns, Fred Fukuchi, Warren Goodman, Jane Jarvis and Al Wall.

—Ruth Biemiller

## HENTOFF TALK

(Continued from page 1)

Larry Stessin and Gloria Zukerman who co-chair the "Shop Talk" Committee, invited Hentoff to speak Thursday, October 5. His subject is "How the Press Covers and Confuses First Amendment issues" and the talk and Q&A will be broadcast live over WNYC.

Educator as well as journalist and author, Hentoff is currently teaching at the New School; his subject is "The Embattled First Amendment from the Beginning to Now." Add to this the fact that he is a member of the steering committee of the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and we have a man with top credentials on the subject.

Looking further ahead, mark down Wednesday evening, October 18, when Ron Nessen; award-winning news correspondent and press secretary to former President Ford, takes us into the 'inner sanctum' of the White House and its politics. Nessen will be followed at a regular Shop Talk luncheon Tuesday, Oct. 24, by Malcolm S. Forbes, president and editor-in-chief of *FORBES* magazine, as guest speaker.

## FROM THE CLUBS

HONG KONG — Michael Parks has arrived in Hong Kong from Cairo to become chief Asian correspondent for the *Baltimore Sun*, succeeding Arnold (Skip) Isaacs, who returned to Baltimore for an assignment on the *Sunday Sun* after five years in Asia. Parks spent three years in the Middle East, three years in Moscow and two years in Saigon for the *Sun*.

Al Kaff, Hong Kong

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## OPC BULLETIN

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John Guenther, Chairman and Editor; Helen Alpert, Matt Bassity, Ruth Biemiller, George Burns, Blythe Foote Finke, Ben G. Frank, Thomas J. Kramer, Ralph Leviton, Rosalind Moore, Grace Naismith, Rebecca Riger.



# Who, What, Where

By GRACE NAISMITH

**NEW LOOK:** Werner N. Brandis has been appointed consulting editor of Broadcast Management/Engineering's new tabloid, World Broadcast News... **Bunny Brower** is the new contributing editor for travel for *The News World*, the Reverend Sun Myung Moon's publication, circulation nearly 500,000, writes Bunny, adding that she has no affiliation with Moon's Unification Church... **David B. Richardson** has been named general editor, Europe, for *U.S. News & World Report*. Now based in Rome, Richardson has covered Middle East peace stories, racial crisis in Rhodesia, and others including the Vatican Conclave.

**SEEN ON THE SCENE:** Enrique Rojas-Vela, Bulletin correspondent in Buenos Aires. Here for the U.N. general assembly.

**PUBLISHING:** Virginia White has conceived and edited a new publication, Grants Magazine. A quarterly, it covers issues that affect both public and private philanthropy and is aimed at both grantseeker and grantmakers. Virginia White's recent book, "Grants: How to Find Out About Them and What to Do Next," was published by Pienum Press. A long story about Elmer Lower appears in Montpelier, the Magazine of James Madison University. Written by Bruce Whiteaker, it quotes Lower, former president of ABC News, on the inside of television news making, including the disturbing fact that television news cannot adequately convey the day's events in a 30-minute news format, "actually only 22 and a half minutes." (A copy of the publication is in the OPC lounge, well worth reading.)

**TRAVELING:** Louis Zara dropped in the Foreign Correspondents Club at Sutherland House on Victoria Island, Hong Kong, and found it charming, cozy, with a marvelous view and worth a visit from all OPC members who have reciprocal arrangements with press clubs around the world.

**PRESS COVERAGE** by Staff Davis for the Circum-Pacific Energy and Mineral Resources Conference in Honolulu. Davis is Tulsa based.

**GIFT** from Tom Mahoney to his alma mater, the University of Missouri, was a collection by or about the late William Allen White, famous Emporia, Kan. newspaper editor. Among the 50 items was White's 1901 novel, "Strategems and Spoils," dedicated by White "to the Kansas City Star, an honest newspaper."

**MAGAZINES:** Yvonne Beaudry had articles in Weekend Magazine and U.S. newspapers on ancestral records of French-Canadian descent, with the result that an Office of Genealogy was to be officially opened by the Minister of Cultural Affairs on July 3 in Quebec. Yvonne was guest of the Quebec Government during a two-day celebration, "Retour Aux Sources" (the return to the roots of the family tree for North Americans of French origin.)... **Sylvia G.L. Dannett** had an article in Outlook Magazine recently on five Jewish women in the late 19th century. Also a *New York Times* (Westchester edition) article on Yuji Yoshimura, a leading bonsai authority.

**Congratulations** to President Henry Gellerman for his resolve to return the OPC to its original status as a "professional organization." The club's prompt telegram in support of Correspondents Craig Whitney and Harold Piper at the time when Moscow was first attempting to intimidate them is the kind of action it should take if it wants to be considered an organization of professionals.

Murry Seeger  
European Economic Correspondent  
*Los Angeles Times*  
Brussels, Belgium

**Appreciated** George Bookman's report on starving for news in the Soviet Union, and the manner in which you displayed it, Page One August 1 OPC Bulletin.

My wife, Annice, and I ran into the same problem back in the Fall of 1964 while in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev.

But we were more fortunate, because the Olympics were on in Japan. No matter how poor our understanding of the Russian tongue might be, we could still read numbers, national insignia and total scores. While the remainder of the four- or six-page papers were "No News as Usual," at least we knew who was doing what at the Olympics.

—Charles W. Utter  
Editor & Co-Publisher  
*The Westerly Sun*  
Westerly, Rhode Island

## MORE LETTERS

**When I'm traveling** on a ship that lacks a news service or am in a small community overseas I get that same news hunger that George Bookman referred to in your Aug. 1 issue.

But having been in close to 90 countries, I can vouch for the fact that at the U.S. Embassy or, in a country's larger cities other than the capital, at the U.S. Consulate one can usually find U.S. publications, including newspapers, that aren't too far out of date. In Leningrad it so happened that when I was last there the U.S. Consulate was in the Astoria Hotel, where I was spending 10 days. I used to make it my business in my traveling days when I often free-lanced on business and economics to drop by at the Embassy or Consulate to pick up what I could and incidentally to bring myself up-to-date on the home news. There is always somebody around who can be helpful in both regards.

—Eliot H. Sharp

## EAT AND DRINK WITH US!

Are your name, title, and address correct? If not... make corrections on the mailing panel below, insert in envelope and return it to the OPC!

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